

REMARKS

Applicant previously canceled claims 3-4, 6 and 12. Claims 1-2, 5, 7-11 and 13 are pending.

Claims 1-2, 5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,787,402 issued to Potter et al ("Potter"), U.S. Patent No. 5,297,031 issued to Gutterman ("Gutterman") and E*Trade Securities, Inc.

Claims 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Potter, Gutterman, E*Trade Securities, Inc. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,412,287 issued to Braddock ("Braddock").

New Claims 14 is added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Grammatical corrections are made to the specification.

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 11 are amended to clarify the subject matter. Claims 14-17 are added. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-11, 13, 14-17 remain in the case.

Responding to the rejection under Section 103, the Examiner cites portions of the references but does not tie the cited teachings to the specific claim elements. Review of the cited portions of the references shows the prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed combinations. Significantly, none of the references show a user interface that enables a user to input not only an initial trade condition but one or more automatic trade conditions. (For example, compare Fig. 4 of the present application with Fig. 2 of Gutterman and Fig. 15 of Potter.)

The Examiner acknowledges that Potter fails to disclose automatic trade conditions executed without intervention of the user at a new selling price higher than the contracted price and the new purchase price lower than the contracted price. (Action at page 4).

Additionally, Potter describes a system and a method that is driven by the bank or currency exchange; the user merely proposes a transaction and gets back a quote (determined by the elaborate process described in Potter), which the user then either accepts or rejects. Potter does not provide any mechanism for the user to call the shots; that is, to input a set of automatic trading conditions to be carried out by the computer system automatically according to the claimed method when the current price reaches one of the automatic condition prices.

The Examiner then points to Gutterman as teaching a computer system and method for managing orders for securities, including price, quantity, etc. The Gutterman system is